

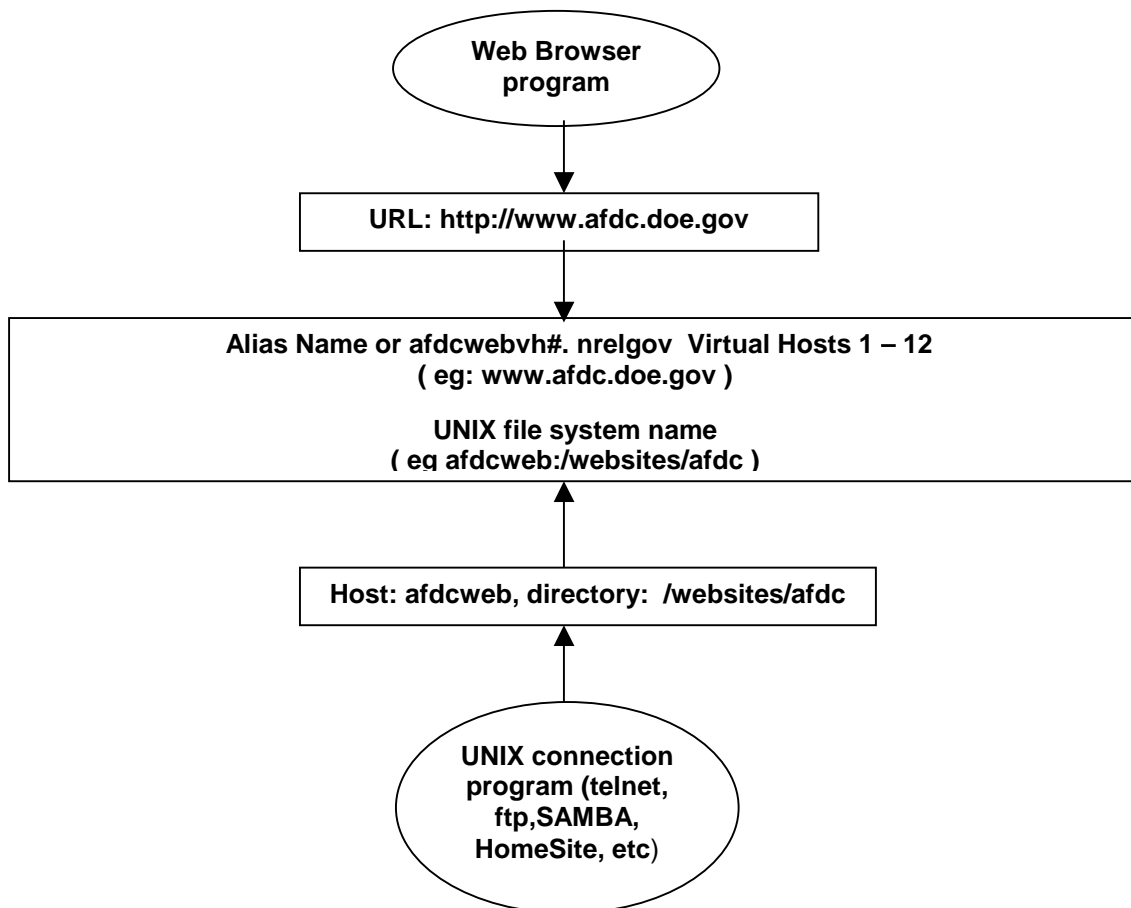
AFDC/CTTS Web Sites

File Creation and Information Flow Overview

This document is intended to provide NREL employees with an overview of the file creation process for the 12 WWW sites maintained and operated by the AFDC staff. The sites are identified and the processes involved with creating, editing and transferring files and data to support the sites are presented. The web sites are hosted on a UNIX server and the various personnel working on the sites use a variety of computer systems including MS Windows PC's and Macintoshes, including different tools to create or edit files and transfer them from system to system.

Web Server Architecture

The UNIX server which hosts these sites is a Sun Microsystems model Enterprise 450 workgroup server located in building 16 at NREL. This is a multi-user system, multiple people can connect to it either using character based programs such as telnet or a windows based program such as a web browser. When accessing the files from a UNIX login connection, the locations of the files and directories are different than accessing them from a web browser connection. Here is a simple diagram explaining the difference



Virtual Hosts for AFDC/CTTS Web Sites

Here are the 5 production and 5 development sites, and 1 internal site on the AFDC web server, with URLs and UNIX directory names.

URL	Other Sites/Apps Under URL	UNIX Directory *
<u>AFDC Internal</u> afdcinternal.nrel.gov afdc3vh2.nrel.gov	Hotline applications	/websites/afdcinternal
<u>AFDC</u> www.afdc.doe.gov afdcweb.nrel.gov		/websites/afdc
<u>AFDC – Development</u> devafdc.nrel.gov afdcwebvh12.nrel.gov	Biotechnology Center for Fuels and Chemicals (intranet site) afdc_newdev.nrel.gov/bcfc	/websites/afdc_newdev
<u>Clean Cities</u> www.ccities.doe.gov afdc3vh.nrel.gov	Clean Cities International	/websites/ccities
<u>Clean Cities – Development</u> devccities.nrel.gov afdcwebvh10.nrel.gov		/websites/ccitiesdev
<u>OTT</u> www.ott.doe.gov afdc3vh3.nrel.gov	Epact, HEV, RBEP, Coolcar, Biofuels (also uses URL www.biofuels.doe.gov - redirected to www.ott.doe.gov/biofuels)	/websites/ott
<u>OTT – Development</u> devott.nrel.gov afdcwebvh8.nrel.gov		/websites/ottdev
<u>CTTS</u> www.ctts.nrel.gov afdc3vh6.nrel.gov	Transportation Times, BTM, Heavy-Vehicle, NGNGV, Analysis	/websites/ctts
<u>CTTS – Development</u> devctts.nrel.gov afdcwebvh7.nrel.gov		/websites/cttsdev
<u>Fleets</u> www.fleets.doe.gov afdc3vh9.nrel.gov		/websites/fleet
<u>Fleets – Development</u> devfleets.nrel.gov afdcwebvh13.nrel.gov		/websites/fleetdev

* /websites OR the following symbolic links will take you to /websites:
 /usr/local/web_info
 /web

Common Web Tools and General Terminology

Operating System: software that controls the computer and interacts with user commands; examples are UNIX – Solaris, AIX, Linux, IRIX, HP-UX

Microsoft Windows – Win95, 98, NT, DOS, Win 3.1

Macintosh – Mac OS version X.X

Telnet: any terminal emulation program that allows connections to a multi-user computer (such as UNIX). Windows PC's and UNIX systems include telnet.

FTP: File Transfer Protocol; any program that uses the FTP standard to transfer files between computers. There are many FTP programs, several of them free.

HTTP: Hyper Text Transfer Protocol: any program that uses the HTTP standard to transfer files from a web server system to a browser program on a client system. Examples of web server programs are Stronghold, Apache, NCSA, Microsoft Internet Information Service. The AFDC server uses Stronghold.

SAMBA: software program that runs on UNIX servers to allow PC's to map network drives and access UNIX file systems as if they were Windows or Mac folders.

X-Windows: Windows GUI systems and programs for UNIX systems.

HTML/Web Editing Tools: HomeSite, FrontPage, Netscape Composer, HotDog, UNIX vi editor, etc. There are increasing numbers of application programs that take one file format and generate HTML files from within the application, such as Microsoft Word, Excel, Access.

File Creation

Files that are used in the web sites are in varying formats, including HTML pages, images, executable programs or scripts, and PDF or other viewable document formats.

Files are created using different techniques or programs and placed in the appropriate location on the server to be viewed with client or customers using browsing programs. As demonstrated above, files accessed by UNIX login and file transfer programs refer to the UNIX directory pathname. Files being accessed by web browser programs use the URL. Files within a given web virtual host are referenced in the URL starting from the "Document Root", as defined in the HTTP configuration file. URL file references are always different from UNIX file pathnames and locations.

Summary

When files are created for the AFDC web sites, the content, structure and access permissions all need to be correct for the page to be viewed as intended. UNIX file permissions are dependent on the method used to transfer the file to the server. Other dependencies such as absolute versus relative path name references must also be correct.

The best way to access files on the AFDCWEB server is to map the drive on your pc. See the Unix System Administrator for help with this procedure.